

New Year Messages From Provincial, Civic and Church Dignitaries

HIS HONOR, LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR
OF ALBERTA.

Government House.

Edmonton, December 31, 1914.
In wishing "A Happy New Year" to the people of Alberta, and pleased to say that we can all review the events that have occurred during 1914, confident that Alberta has done its share to assist the Mother Country in the present crisis.

Great strides have been made into a war to protect the integrity of Belgium guaranteed by treaties signed by the leading European nations, to which treaties even Germany was a party. The expectation of Britain's enemies that large sections of her people would desert her and turn to the cause of the Central Powers has been splendidly disproved by the humanity and loyalty with which all sections of the British Empire have flown to the assistance of the Mother Country. We can be proud of the fact that the Canadian Canadian people as a whole and with particular pride in the fact that Alberta has sent more volunteers to the front in proportion to the population of the Province than any other portion of Canada, and is second to none in the number. Not only has the Province unanimously offered a substantial gift from the Province towards the war expenditure, but our people in, actually have contributed largely to the support of the defence of our Empire. We look forward with confidence to a successful conclusion of the war during the current year, and we trust that the resultant peace will make future wars an impossibility.

The financial stringency that has oc-

curred during the past year will not be an unmixed evil, if it results in a "back to the land" movement and an effort to produce wealth from the fertility of our soil and the adoption of the principles of mixed farming, rather than in the purchase of real estate that has been in vogue during the past few years. We can congratulate the people on the large amount of land already prepared for crop, and trust that the efforts of the people in this direction in the Empire will be both beneficial to themselves and financially satisfactory to themselves.

G. H. V. BULYEA.

PREMIER SIFTON.

Last year I predicted that 1915 in Alberta would be a year of expansion along social and economic lines. With the exception of the effects of the European war events have borne out the prediction. The steady evolution of agriculture to the status of a science has been a marked feature of the year, and marked during the past season and will be hastened by the war. Boards of trade, industrial bureaus, anxious to promote the welfare of the province, and financial institutions responsible for the money to assist development, have operated in the adjustment of rural and urban life necessary after the rapid growth of the towns and cities during the last decade.

The prosperity of agriculture is recognized as the most important factor in financial stability, and every direction of effort has come when applicable in Alberta has temporarily ceased. The demand for foodstuffs for the armies of the Allies creates a market that has never been excelled in the history of Western Canada and though the

quantity available for export from Alberta will be less this year than in 1913, yet on account of the increase in prices greater profits will accrue to the farmers. The prospect of a continuance of a world-wide war and the entry of the United States into World War, will bring about a revolution in World agriculture that will inevitably follow, activated our farmers from the double motive of patriotism and good business to prepare larger areas for crop next year than in any previous year. Favorable weather during the present number of days will encourage the farmers to an excess amount of fall plowing. The areas needed next year will be at least twenty per cent, greater than in 1914. All parts of the Province have been favored in the present war with copious falls of rain and snow, and the situation is in excellent condition and all natural signs point to a successful crop next season.

Settlement in the newer parts of the Province, judged by the number of homesteads taken, continues unabated, and there is a decided increase in the number of country districts. Railways, construction, especially towards the rich farm lands of Northern Alberta, has proceeded as in normal years. Some 550 miles of completed railways have been added to the railway system of Alberta by the end of 1914.

With the exception of certain districts, the farmers have had good crops. They have money and as a result trade at country points is brisk and calculated to continue so long as the war continues. The number of lumber coincided with the high price of grain, reflected in the improved farm buildings noticed in many communities this fall. One of the most cheerful rural scenes this season is to observe the procession of farmers'

teams to the elevator, and then to watch them jogging homeward, each with a few hundred feet of lumber in the wagon. It means increased cost in the farmers' home, and greater convenience in housing their live stock.

Municipalities and new industrial enterprises will be compelled to trim their programs to the dimensions of restricted credit, and meager capital supply, but considering the enormous development that has taken place along these lines in the last few years, it is not likely to suffer from the economy in these quarters. Being a new country, the war has had some effect upon us, as we are as yet of a vast majority of the country and vast majority of the production of our farms and other natural sources of wealth available to us for exchange abroad, we are optimistic that our progress will continue uncheckered, and that all classes will be able to discharge their obligations with regard to industrial supports to the machinery of credit.

ARTHUR L. SIFTON.

MAYOR HENRY.

The investigation of the war has always been "Forward" and we can never be stationary. Wherein shall we seek for progress in 1915? Nineteen hundred and fourteen has taught us the lesson of the uncertainty of things easily won. Let us turn our attention to the development of our selves and our communities, to each other—and there shall be war no more, but peace, harmony and prosperity.

EMIL J. LEGAL,

Bishop of Edmonton.

BISHOP OF EDMONTON

(Anglican).

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EMIL J. LEGAL,

Bishop of Edmonton.

BISHOP OF EDMONTON

(Roman Catholic).

Nineteen hundred and fourteen, a message of peace was brought from Heaven. How is it that there is still war upon earth? Let us practise the golden rule of love and charity to each other—and there shall be war no more, but peace, harmony and prosperity.

EMIL J. LEGAL,

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H. ALLAN GRAY.

DESPITE HANDICAPS THE PAST YEAR HAS SHOWN SUBSTANTIAL GROWTH IN CITY AND SURROUNDING DISTRICT

Business in Different Government Services and in the Banks Has Been Good—Post Office Returns Have Been Substantially Increased From Those of 1913

With the closing of the old year and the beginning of the new, a review of the progress of the year is not of particular interest, as the figures in the tables will show that the growth in all branches particularly in connection with the war has been phenomenal. The growth in the banks is a very fair indication of our progress or retrogression in the past year. The statement received from the different offices of the Post Office Department shows that while the year '93 was the busting of the year, 1914 has been the year of general prosperity. The growth in the postal service has been substantially increased, and while the figures do not show an improvement in the number of customers, the comparison with the authorities' report that there will be a substantial gain in the number of customers in 1915, is a very fair comparison with that of 1913.

In the Land Office.

The land office for the past year does not end until the 31st of March, so that the figures for the year '93 are not a very fair comparison with that transacted in the previous year, which can also be given with the growth of the postal service.

Post Office Returns.

Statistical returns of money orders issued, \$162,257; money orders paid in, \$167,412; postal money orders, \$16,854.

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DAMSEY'S GREAT CLEARING SALE

Saturday Shoppers will Revel in These Sensational Offerings! -- Remember Store Closes Saturdays at 6

THIS CLEARANCE SALE at Ramsey's is the greatest shopping event of the month. We've planned to make it such by affecting reductions from one-half to two-thirds less than former prices. The few items we can list on this page give but a 'scant hint of the great price benefits you may expect. Come Saturday and watch for the red printed price tickets throughout the store.

Much Interest Should Be Centred on This Half-Price Sale Tapestry Curtains

They are very highly finished and reversible; have heavy knotted fringe at the top and bottom and sides. Width is 62 inches and 2 yards long. Two box curtain bargains we have over offered

Regular \$15.00. Clearing price per pair \$4.00. Regular \$4.50. Cheaper price per pair \$4.00. Uniform price per pair \$4.50. Regular \$15.00. Clearing price per pair \$4.00.

75c Curtain Nets 35c Yard

Heavy, white, cream and earthy pretty flannel, silk and other materials, about 30 inches wide. Regular 75c-yards. Clearing sale price 35c.

Extra Special! — Linoleums at These Prices

We will sacrifice lengths up to 5 yards and 2 yards wide at half price. There are at least 200 different kinds and patterns. Regular \$1.00. Clearing price per pair \$0.50. Regular \$1.50. Clearing price per pair \$0.75.

Regular 6¢ square yard, selling Saturday 32½c

Comforters at Half Price

Covered with good quality Art Cambric and filled with clean down feathers. Regular \$1.00. Saturday 50c.

Chartreuse sale price 50c.

Brass Extension Rods 10c

Light-colored and highly finished, extend from 27 to 54 inches. Most rods ends and brackets complete. Formerly \$1.45.

10c

First Saturday of 1915 Will See Big Savings in Our Pure Food Dept.

Snowflake powdered ammonia in packages, regular 8¢-pck. Saturday 4¢-pck. Snowflake powdered ammonia in packages, regular 8¢-pck. Saturday 4¢-pck. Not more than 4 pcks. to a box.

Arrowroot in cans, regular 10¢-pck. Saturday 5¢-pck. Ramsey's Special Breakfast Oats, regular 10¢-pck. Saturday 5¢-pck.

Swiss Nappies Soap, regular 10¢-pck. Saturday 5¢-pck.

Paraffin Soap, regular 10¢-pck. Saturday 5¢-pck.

Bar Soap, regular 10¢-pck. Saturday 5¢-pck.

Household Soap, regular 10¢-pck. Saturday 5¢-pck.

